

OAKHAM TOWN REPORT



1998

ANNUAL REPORTS
of the

TOWN OFFICIALS
of the

*TOWN OF OAKHAM,
MASSACHUSETTS*

for the
FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 1998



Wacław (Vic) Smichinski

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT DEDICATION

This year's Annual Town Report is dedicated to Waclaw (Vic) Smichinski.

Vic served as the town dog officer for many years. He drove the heavy equipment on the landfill until it was closed, was past president of the Council on Aging and a volunteer for meals on wheels. Vic also participated in various events including the Council on Aging's Annual Valentines Dinner; monitor for the Lion's Club recycle center and volunteered with surplus food distribution. He was an honored member of Oakham Lions Club and a member of the Knights of Columbus Cardinal Gibbons Council in North Brookfield. He was also a member and past president of the North Brookfield Golden Age Club.

Vic resided in Oakham his entire life. He attended the Oakham School, getting there by horse and buggy. He worked on the family farm after school and through his teen years. After working many years in the Barre Wool, Vic became a crane operator for Boston & Albany Railroad for 30 years, retiring in 1976.

He was a devoted husband, loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was an out going, friendly person with a "hello" for everyone and always willing to lend a helping hand as shown in his involvement over the years in many associations and activities.



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GENERAL GOVERNMENT --

ADMINISTRATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN CLERK

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen is proud to present the reports of several officers, boards and committees for the Fiscal Year 1998, covering the period between July 1, 1997 through June 30, 1998.

The Board of Selectmen met bi-weekly on Monday evenings to approve expenditures of officers and departments make appointments of personnel within our jurisdiction and carry on the business of the Town. Each member also represents the board on various committees, such as the municipal building, library study and the fire truck study committees.

The town received \$96,366 in back taxes from Mr. Zaltman for the Campbell property on New Braintree Road after years of negotiations.

The board received a petition to study the speed limit on South Road from residents. Chief Galena did the necessary research and study to set a legalized speed limit and submitted it to the State for approval. Approval was then granted from the State.

The Ambulance received its new 4-wheel drive vehicle from Greenwood Fire Apparatus, but it did not meet State inspections and approvals. The State had questions regarding the "spec" on the new ambulance along with concerns from EMT's. After these concerns were discussed with the State and Greenwood Fire Apparatus, Greenwood offered to exchange the new ambulance for another new ambulance with all the concerns rectified. The new ambulance is not 4-wheel drive but it has spin chains on it, which operate in slippery areas. The Town is grateful to Greenwood Fire Apparatus for standing behind their product.

Much time has been spent by Donna Couture and Edna Holloway preparing forms for the loans of the Municipal Building in preparation for construction.

The Board of Selectmen wishes to express our appreciation for the cooperation of all the people, elected, appointed, and to the many volunteers, who have given themselves so freely. Without this commitment to the Town the Town would not be able to operate and provide the essential services to our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Leary, Chairman
Leo McCaffrey, Vice Chairman
Clayton Rice, Member

Various Appointments -- Fiscal 1998

POSITION	APPOINTEE	TERM EXPIRATION
Admin. Assistant/Town Acct.	Donna Couture	2000
Ambulance Replacement	Charl Van Schoick	1998
Study Committee	Michael Macuga	1998
	Paul Rochette	1998
	Randall Packard	1998
	Joseph Stenger	1998
Animal Inspector	Hank Stone	1998
	Nancy Dahn	1998
Arts Council	Elaine Griffith	1999
	Linda Morse	1999
	Lisa Lajoie	1999
	Nancy Johnston	1999
	Patricia O'Connor	1999
	Peggy Kocoras	1999
Board of Health (to fill vacancy)	Susan Hutchinson	1998
Building Inspector/Zoning	Ralph Dwelly	1998
Enforcement Officer	Donald Cournoyer, (assistant)	1998
Civil Defense Director	Tim Toomey	1998
Conservation Commission	Lucy Tessnau	2002
	Roland Ruel	1998
Council on Aging	Ann Troy	2002
	Jocelyn Wile	2002
Dog Officer	Nancy Dahn	1998
Dog Officer, Assistant	Pat Foley	1998
Fire Chief	Richard Howe	1998
Fire Truck Replacement	Robert Leary	1998
Committee	Randy Packard	1998
	Richard Howe	1998
	Bradford Taylor	1998
	Richard Lajoie	1998
Highway Superintendent	C. Kevin Currier	2000
Historical Commission	Jeff Young	1998
	Mark Mirabella	1998
	Maude Stone	1998
	Tina Mirabella	1998
Library Trustee (to fill vacancy)	Lisa Lajoie	1998
Library Study Committee	Charl van Schoick	1998
	Ralph Dwelly	1998
	Lois Linehan	1998
Municipal Building Committee	Denis Dillon	1998
	Ellenor Downer	1998
	Denis delaGorginedere	1998
	Lionel Lajoie, Jr.	1998
	Michael Russ	1998
Police Chief	David Galena	2000
Plumbing & Gas Inspector	Byron Carpenter	1998
Recycling Coordinator, BOH	Nancy Johnston	1998

Town Counsel	Robert D. Cox	1998
Town Acct./Admin.Assistant	Donna Couture	2000
Wire Inspector	Denis delaGorgindere	1998
Wire Inspector, Assistant	L. Thomas McCaffrey, Jr.	1998
Veteran's Agent	Leonard Hardy	1998
Zoning Appeals Board	Gunther Mueller	2000
Zoning Appeals Board, alternate	Spinney	1999

**Police Officers Appointments
Term Ending June 30, 1998**

Regular Police Officer:

David Halsdorff, Sgt
Michael Stoddard
Nancy Stoddard
Tom Lee

Frederick Gehring
James Albano, III
Stephen Lange
Arthur Zorge

Special Police Officers:

James Thompson, Barre Chief
Peter Caine, Barre PD
Richard Salls, Sgt. Rutland PD
Glenn Ludden, Rutland PD
Mick Renshaw, Rutland PD
W. Kevin White, Rutland PD
Patricia Babin, Shrewsbury PD
Jay Dugan, Det., WBPD Drug Task Force

Richard Brackes Sgt., Barre
Ralph Anderson, Rutland Chief
Philip Martin, Rutland PD
Wayne Walker, Rutland PD
Claude Brunelle, Rutland PD
Kevin Drolet, Rutland PD
Ronald Cloutier, Paxton (firearms)
Russell Jones, Mass. Dept. Corrections

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk's office is open on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:30 p.m. and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. I am available to help with dog, hunting, and fishing licenses, registering to vote and provide copies of birth, marriage or death certificates and applications for business certificates are filed in the Town Clerk's office.

You May register to vote in the Town Clerk's office, or by mail. Special forms are located at the Post Office, Town Hall and Library. Before any federal, state or local election there are special voter registration sessions that will be posted.

As of January 1, 1998, Oakham's Population was 1,1716

Vital Statistics Totals, July 1, 1997 through June 30, 1998.

Births 9

Marriages 5

Death 14

TOWN OFFICERS FOR 1998

Three Year Terms:

Selectmen:

Clayton Rice	2001
Robert Leary	1999
Leo McCaffrey	2000

Assessors:

Tabitha J. Tashjian	2000
Herman A. Spinney, Jr.	2001
Kathleen S. Usher	1999

Constable

Russell Jones	2001
Marcia C. Casault	2001
Laurie F. Rosenkranz	2001
Tabitha J. Tashjian	2001
Lucy I. Tessnau	2001
Kathleen Usher	2001

Town Clerk

Elizabeth I. Neylon	2000
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Board of Health

William R. Payne	2000
Linda J. Mueller	1999

Treasurer

Edna Holloway	1998
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School Committee

Thomas A. Tashjian	2001
Caron Coakly	2000

Cemetery Committee

Maude M. Stone	2000
Wesley Dwelly	1999
Robert Whyte (appointed)	1999

Tax Collector

Susan J. Carpenter	1999
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Moderator

Jeffrey A. Young	2001
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Library Trustees

Lois B. Linehan	2000
Dawn R. Thistle	2001
Susan Turnbull	1999

Five Year Terms:

Planning Board

Peter Clifford	2001
Mark Turnbull	2002
Thomas P. Hughes	1999
Phillip B. Warbasse	2000
Nancy Pettyjohn (appointed)	1999

Tree Warden

Wesley Dwelly	1999
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Special Town Meeting January 26, 1998

A quorum being present, the meeting was opened at 7:35 p.m. by Moderator Jeffrey Young.

- Article 1 After some discussion it was voted for an adjourned session of this Town meeting to be reopened for discussion of February 23, 1998 at 7:30 pm at the Oakham Center School.
- Article 2 It was voted that the Town transfer \$3,714. from free cash to the Reserve Fund.

The vote was Oral and Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Special Town Meeting February 23, 1998

A quorum being present, the meeting held on January 26, 1998 reopened and was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Moderator Jeffrey Young.

- Article 1 After some discussion it was voted to transfer \$135,000 from Free Cash and \$35,000 from the Stabilization Account to help pay for the Municipal Building and Police Station.

The vote was oral and unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Special Town Meeting May 11, 1998

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Moderator Jeffrey Young.

- Article 1 It was voted to transfer \$18,154.57 from the Stabilization Account to the Legal Account.

The vote was oral and unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Annual Town Meeting May 11, 1998

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Moderator Jeffrey Young.

Article 1 It was voted that the Town postpone the Annual Town Meeting until June 15, 1998.

The vote was oral and unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Annual Town Meeting June 15, 1998

A quorum being present, the Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by moderator Jeffrey Young.

Article 1: It was voted that the Town accept reports of town officers as printed in the Annual Town Report..

Article 2: It was voted that the Town to elect Ellenor Downer, Eva Grimes and Linda Seeds as Field Drivers for the ensuing year.

Article 3: It was voted that the Town hear the results of the election of Town Officers held in May.

Article 4: It was voted that the Town fix the salaries and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided for Section 108, Chapter 4; of the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

Moderator	103
Bcard of Selectmen	3844
Treasurer	3926
Tax Collector	4389
Assessors	4151
Town Clerk	2927
Library Trustees	54
Cemetery Committee	54
Board of Health	150

Article 5: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate in the treasury such sums of money as necessary to pay salaries, expenses, and outlays of the several Town Departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1998.

Board of Health, General Expenses	1,000
Cemeteries, Operating Expenses	3,054
Culture, Historical Commission	100
Library	21,094
Parks and Rec	3,900
Education, QRHS, Assessment	813,290
School Bond Fund	171,149
Vocational Education	86,000
Executive, Admin. Asst./ Town Acct	16,784
Board of Selectmen	7,279
Home Health Care	1,279
Group Insurance	14,000
Blanket Insurance	35,000
Worc. County Retirement	18,775
Meditax	4,000
Financial, Board of Assessors	17,447
Finance Committee	525
Reserve Fund	12,500
Tax Collector	7,839
Treasurer	6,836
Treas. Short-Term Interest	12,313
General, Annual Town Report	1,200

Town Hall	15,197
Municipal Building Operating	6,250
Highways, Salaries	88,498
Operating Expenses	36,310
Snow and Ice	18,500
Land Use, Conservation Commission	2,635
Planning Board	660
Zoning/Appeals Board	275
Zoning Enforcement	500
Central Mass. Assessment	269
Legislature, Moderator	103
Licensing, Census	1,318
Town Clerk	4,247
Town Elections	1,651
Town Clerk Computer Update	1,000
Operations, Town Counsel	7,000
Tax Title	500
Treasurer Foreclosures	2,000
Other, Tree Warden	350
Dutch Elm Disease	600
Insect Pest Control	100
Protective, Animal Inspector	256
Public Safety, Ambulance	1,775
Civil Defense	300
Dispatching	25,500
Fire Department	31,635
Police Chief Salary	39,882
Police, Other Expenses	30,768
Special, Council on Aging	3,250
Veteran Services	2,530
Grand Total - Article Five	<u>1,579,223</u>

- Article 6: It was voted that the Town appropriate \$25,000. from Ambulance Receipts Reserved a sum of money to be used for operating expenses for the Ambulance..
- Article 7: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate a sum of \$20,000. for short-term Interest on the Construction of the Municipal Building Project.
- Article 8: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate a sum of \$13,500. for bonding and legal expenses for the Construction of the Municipal Building.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Article 9 - 24: It was voted that the Town advance for consideration Articles 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, and take action on such article as stated in the Consent Calendar printed on the report and recommended by the Oakham Finance Committee, without debate on any Articles, provided that upon request of one vote at this meeting, made before the vote is taken on this motion, an Article shall be dropped from the Consent Calendar and shall be acted upon in the ordinary course of business at the Town Meeting.

Article 9: Borrowing in anticipation of revenue

Article 10: Transfer proceeds of Cemetery Lots
 Article 11: Transfer money paid for Perpetual Care
 Article 12: Accept State Library Grant
 Article 13: Authorize Selectmen to enter into agreement with Mass. DPW
 Article 14: Authorize Selectmen to set compensation
 Article 15: Authorized Treasurer to spend Hwy Chapter 90 money
 Article 16: Board of Health Fees
 Article 17: Building Inspector Fees
 Article 18: Electrical Inspections
 Article 19: Plumbing Inspections
 Article 20: Fire Inspections
 Article 21: Town Clerk Fees
 Article 22: Tax Collector Fees
 Article 23: Deputy Tax Collector Fees
 Article 24: Dog Officers Fees

- Article 25: It was voted that the Town hears the report of the Municipal Building Committee.
 Article 26: It was voted that the Town hears the report of the Library Building Study Committee.
 Article 27: It was voted that the Town hears the report of the Fire Truck Study Committee.
 Article 28: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate a sum of \$2,270. to repair the Library roof.
 Article 29: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate a sum of \$500. to repair the vault in the Town Clerk's office.
 Article 30: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate a sum of \$4,000. to purchase a new sound system.
 Article 31: It was voted that the Town raise and appropriate a sum of \$2,500. to purchase a new computer system for the Town Accountant / Administrative Assistant.
 Article 32: It was voted that the Town carry over \$1,430.50 left in the Fiscal 1998 Treasurer's Foreclosure Account.
 Article 33: It was voted that the Town approve having a member of the Board of Assessors designated as Working Assessor and fix the rate of pay at a sum of \$672.67 per month.
 Article 34: It was voted that the Town authorize the Board of Assessors to appoint one or more of its Board members, to exclude the Working Assessor to work for compensation and to set the rate of pay at \$8.00 per hour, not to exceed \$600.
 Article 35: It was voted that the Town accept a Water Tank, Pump and Plumbing from the Fire Department Association.
 Article 36: It was voted that the Town Amend Chapter III, Section 4 of the By-Laws to read: Any officer and board having charge of Town property or material not required for Town purposes may sell the same with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to an amount not exceeding \$2,000. in any one year.
 Article 37: It was voted that the Town
 a) Increase authorization to borrow for the Municipal Building Project by \$145,000. (for a total of \$725,000) and reduce debt authorization for the Landfill Closing by \$145,000.
 b) Transfer \$145,000 from the Municipal Building Project Account (as voted 2/23/98) to pay off the Landfill Closure Debt in total and,
 Article 38: It was voted that the Town rescind approval for borrowing for the purpose of repair, replacement or upgrading of septic systems as authorized by Article 20 of 6/23/97 and to return the grant money received for administration of the program.
 Article 39: It was voted that the Town use \$6,211. of interest earned from the school bond fund for the Oakham Center School operating budget.
 Article 40: It was voted that the Town to accept the Personnel By-Laws as written.

- Article 41: It was voted that the Town authorize the Selectmen to reassign the 1984 Ford Econoline 350 Ambulance to the dog officer for Town use..
- Article 42: It was voted that the Town hear the Moderator's appointments to the Finance Committee. (Randy Packard and Denis Dillon)

All votes were oral and unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Annual Town Election May 18, 1998

<u>Selectmen</u>		<u>Assessor</u>	
John P. Larrabee	68	Herman Spinney	221
Clayton E. Rice	163	Blanks	20
Blank	8	<u>Library Trustee for 2 years</u>	
Michael Brunelle	2	Lisa Lajoie	220
		Blanks	21
<u>Board of Health</u>		<u>Library Trustee for 3 years</u>	
Susan Hutchinson	220	Dawn Thistle	219
Blanks	21	Brad Taylor	1
<u>Treasurer</u>		Blank	21
Edna G. Holloway	218	<u>Cemetery Commissioner</u>	
Blank	23	Blank	23
<u>Constables</u>		Write In	18
Marcia Casault	199	<u>School Committee</u>	
Russell Jones	188	Thomas Tashjian	143
Laurie Rosenkranz	195	Kathleen Hardie	95
Lucy I. Tessnau	212	Blank	3
Blank	212		
<u>Write In and Accepted Position</u>			
Edna Holloway	17		
Tabitha Tashjian	13		
Write In	6		

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Neylon

GENERAL GOVERNMENT --

PUBLIC SAFETY

AMBULANCE

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

DOG OFFICER

FIRE DEPARTMENT

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

POLICE DEPARTMENT

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AMBULANCE

Richard Howe, Chief
Richard Davis, Director
William Aldrich, EMT-D, 1st Lt., Training Officer
John Drolet, EMT-D
Ann Friberg, EMT-D
Leif Hendrickson, EMT-D
Diane Petrone, EMT-D
Donna Petrone, EMT-D
Tome Petrone, EMT-D
Shelley Lam, EMT-D
James Rollins, EMT-D

1998 was a busy, productive but stressful year. The new 4 x 4 ambulance was returned and replaced with a new 2 x 2 ambulance. Re-certification by the State OEMS was acquired in April for 2 years. We are presently in the process of recruiting EMT's to serve on the squad. The service continues to use Medicompts Inc., a billing service for third party reimbursement. Receipts for 1998 was \$30,915.20

During the calendar year 1998 the Ambulance responded to 111 calls.

- 101 – Medical Emergencies
- 10 – Fire Department Assists
- 2 – Mutual Aid to other towns
- 5 – Mutual Aid from other towns
- 14 – Mutual Aid from Advanced Life Support
- 19 – Patient Signs Refusal – no transport

I would like to congratulate and thank all the EMT'S for a job well done in 1998. It took a lot of time, effort and their continued high level of professionalism to provide Emergency Services to the Town of Oakham.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard H Davis, Director

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Young</u>
Cattle: (Adult = 2 years & over)		
Number of dairy	3	27
Number of beef	9	4
Number of Steers/Oxen	3	-
Number of goats (Adult = 1yr & up)	14	1
Number of sheep (Adult = 1yr & up)	60	12
Swine:		
Number of breeders	-	-
Number of feeders	4	2
Equines:		
Number of horses	94	-
Number of ponies	5	-
Number of donkeys	1	-
One stable accessible to the public		
Number of llamas	1	
Poultry: 188 - chickens 2 - turkeys 0 - ratites 25 - waterfowl 4 - gamebirds		
Number of rabbits 41 Quaranteens 11 Investigations 15		

Respectfully submitted,

Henry W. Stone
Nancy Dahn

REPORT OF THE DOG OFFICER

The following is a summary of calls handled this past year:

27	dogs	48	dogs found or placed	4	reported hit by cars
2	destroyed (hit by car)	66	complaints	39	cat calls
43	miscellaneous requests	8	dog bites		

The animal related calls in town have increased considerably since the past fiscal year. This is due to the increase in town population and also more pet owners. Our main concern is that people still realize the importance of vaccinating your pet against rabies and the licensing of your pet. A lot of pets could have been returned home earlier had they been properly licensed and also not allowed to wander loose in town.

Dog licenses are due on April 1st and can be obtained from the Town Clerk. The fees are \$7.00 for spayed or neutered and \$11.00 for all others.

The dog officer and assistant can be reached by calling the dispatch center at 886-2115.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Dahn, Dog Officer
Pat Foley, Assistant Dog Officer

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department responded to 65 incidents and the Ambulance squad had 111 calls in 1998. The number of fire incidents is following a state trend of fewer actual fire calls whereas the ambulance calls are increasing each year.

The incidents for 1998 consisted of the following:

Ambulance Assists	15
Auto Accidents	19
Brush Fires	8
Carbon Monoxide	4
Faulty Alarms	4
Haz-Mat	1
Investigations	1
Mutual Aid	2
Powerlines Down	1
Public Service	2
Rubbish Fires	1
Structure Fires	7

Regretfully one of our structure fires incidents resulted in a death. This was, however, the first in well over a decade. An interesting statistic is that there were no vehicle fires in Oakham during 1998. In past years there were as many as 15 in one year. Since the State Fire Marshal's office instituted the Burned Vehicle Reporting System the number of incidents of vehicle fires has steadily decreased.

The fire safety program for the students of Oakham Center School was held during Fire Prevention Week in October. Captain Thomas McCaffrey, assisted by firefighter/EMT John Drolet and myself, gave the presentation and equipment demonstration to the students. Captain McCaffrey and firefighter Drolet also visited the Country Day School and story hour at the library.

By the close of the fiscal year the Municipal Building Project had only the foundation work completed. The steel for the building is due in September and it is hoped that by the time this report is read, the Fire, Highway and Police will have moved in.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Howe
Fire Chief

REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Fiscal 1998 was once again a busy year for the Highway Department. Work consisted mainly of bituminous patching, spot graveling, drainage, road scraping, grading of gravel roads, road sweeping and roadside mowing. The legal easements for the East Hill drainage and resurfacing project were processed through town council. The winter of 1997-1998 was normal with the exception of ice following nearly each snowfall.

The highway department purchased a used road sweeper from the Town of East Brookfield. This will allow for more roads to be swept in the springtime. Also, the highway purchased a 1985 Morbark brush chipper. A 6-8 cu yd sander was purchased through the Mass. Highway State auction, saving the town a considerable amount of money and adding a very important piece of equipment for the winter months.

Road construction projects consisted of the following:

South Road	7,300 ft of Bituminous concrete overlay
Spencer Road	1,900 ft of Bituminous concrete overlay
	2,500 ft of Reclamation 6" depth
	2,500 ft of Bituminous concrete binder and top
	1,500 ft of 6" Sub Drain
Gaffney Road	3,600 ft of Reclamation 6" depth
	3,600 ft of Road Mix 3" depth

Principal items of equipment owned by the Town are as follows:

1 1959 Austin Western Grader	1 Surveyors Transit
1 1985 Cat. IT 28 Loader	1 5 H.P. water pump
1 1989 International Diesel Dump Truck	1 Husqvarna grass trimmer/brush cutter
1 1983 L-8000 Ford Truck	1 Husqvarna Lawn Tractor
1 1997 F350 wd Dump Truck w/plow	1 X-Mark Commercial lawn mower
1 1965 John Deere Tractor w/mower	1 1995 Morbark Brush Chipper
1 1989 Torwel 6 c.y.S.S. automatic sander	1 1961 Wayne Road Sweeper
1 1984 Torwel 8 c.y automatic sander	1 Echo Power Pruner
1 Vee type Snow Plow	1 Milwaukee Chop Saw
6 One-way snow plows	1 9' Reversible snow plow
1 8' Reversible Snow Plow	1 170 Lincoln Mig Welder
1 Motor driven truck drawn road sweeper	1 4hp Trash Pump
1 1/2 bag cement mixer	1 1996 International Diesel Dump Truck
3 chain saws	1 Front Runner Rake
1 5 H.P. air compressor	

Respectfully submitted,

C. Kevin Currier
Highway Superintendent

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

I am please to report that overall crime has gone down during the past year. Our calls for service went down slightly over 11%. During the year we answered a total of 553 calls for service. What I am most pleased to report is that our incidents of violent crime and domestic violence has also gone down. Officers of this department worked with almost every law enforcement agency including the Criminal Investigation Division of the I.R.S.

The following is a breakdown of the more significant arrests and investigations we conducted during the year:

Arrest	34	Drug investigation	15
OUI Alcohol	7	Rape	1
Larceny over \$250	6	Indecent A&B	1
Vandalism	7	Cult activity	1
Domestic Violence	6	Breaking and Enter	2
Abuse orders 209A	44	Deaths non-M/V	3
Burglar Alarms	69		

In late October 1998 the new Mass. Gun Law went into affect. To give you some idea of the scope of the new law, the old Firearms law was one and a half pages long, the new Firearms law of 1998 is 58 pages in length. Both Sgt. Halsdroff and I have attended three full days of training. The state provided us with a 300-page book to explaining the new law. Every day we are getting three for four calls about the law from residents and we are still learning new aspects of the firearm law. This new law has become a true administrative nightmare for all of us involved with its implantation. The only section of the law that has helped us is the firearm storage section. We no longer store firearms in the station but they are now stored at a licensed bonded warehouse.

The Police departments Community Policing programs have been a great success and the DARE program is still very well received at the school. Sgt. Halsdroff has targeted the 6th^{grade} for the core program but he makes it a point to visit each classroom to talk about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. Both these programs are funded by grants that I write each year. Last year we received almost \$25,000.00 in grant money.

All of us in the police department are looking forward to moving into our new station in January or February of 1999. We will be moving from a station of 175 sq. feet to a 2500 sq. foot station.

I want to thank the Finance committee the Board of Selectmen and all the boards that we have worked with during the past year and most of all the residents for the support during the past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

David I. Galena, Chief of Police

GENERAL GOVERNMENT - HUMAN SERVICES

ARTS COUNCIL

BOARD OF HEALTH

BUILDING INSPECTOR

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

COUNCIL ON AGING

LIBRARIAN

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

LIBRARY STUDY COMMITTEE

MUNICIPAL BUILDING STUDY COMMITTEE

PARKS & RECREATION

PLANNING BOARD

TREE WARDEN

VETERANS SERVICES

WIRE INSPECTOR

ZONING APPEALS BOARD

REPORT OF THE ARTS COUNCIL

The Oakham Cultural Council 1998 fiscal year began September 1997 with meetings held at the Congregational Church, including our community input meeting, which was held on October 5. This was advertised in the Barre Gazette.

Representatives were at the Center School on September 23 and reported considerable interest.

The Council approved \$3,075 in grants which included musical and storytelling performances at Fobes Memorial Library as well as Christmas Tea / Tree Lighting. We would like to remind residents of Oakham that passes for the Worcester Art Museum and the New England Science Center are available at the Library.

Grants were also awarded for entertainment at the Yankee Fair, performances at the Fun in the Sun week, both sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Committee. Cultural events for the Center School children were approved and the Council successfully held a contest for the design of a Council logo. The winning design was created by Jessica Rosenkranz and on March 28, at the Council sponsored jazz/swing band concert the winner was announced and the artwork was on display.

Serving on the Cultural Council is fun and rewarding. There are always new avenues opening for grant recipient hopefuls. We encourage residents to consider applying for a grant in either the arts, humanities, or interpretive sciences. And we also would enthusiastically welcome members.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Morse, Chairman
Nancy Johnston
Mary Martiros

Elaine Griffith
Lisa Lajoie
Judy Menard

Patricia O' Connor
Carrie Whyte
Jocelyn Wile

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health continued with business as usual, issuing permits for wells, food services, establishments, campground facilities and for installation of new and repair systems.

Fred Carey continues to serve as Board of Health Agent, witnessing soil testing, reviewing septic system designs and performing inspections of septic system installations. He also inspects the Oakham Center School. Richard Stevens, Board of Health Agent for the Town of Barre continues to serve as our agent when Fred is unavailable.

Susan Hutchinson of Old Turnpike Road has joined the Board of Health.

Our meetings continue to be bi-monthly, the first and third Mondays of the month.

Respectfully submitted,

William Payne
Susan Hutchinson
Linda Mueller

REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

I hereby submit my report of permits issued from July 1, 1997 through June 30, 1998.

Permit Breakdown:

Demolition	0	Signs	0
Swimming Pools	4	Additions & Alterations	9
Decks and Porches	6	Sheds	2
Garage	3	Barns	6
One-Family Homes	6	Multi-Family Homes	0
Roofing and Siding	4	Chimney and Wood Stoves	7
Municipal Building	1	Annual Certificate for Public Bldg	<u>4</u>
		TOTAL PERMITS ISSUED	52

Zoning Activities:

Zoning Hearings Attended	1	Zoning Violations Addressed	6
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Respectfully submitted,

Ralph W. Dwelly,
Inspector of Buildings/Commissioner

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

During the 1998 fiscal year we were pleased to welcome Robert Whyte, as a new member of the board. There were ten regular burials during the year, and three cremation burials. Two graves were sold, each consisting of two graves.

Mowing of all the cemeteries was completed as needed and meetings were called as the necessity arose.

All burial records within the town cemeteries were researched and records maintained by the cemetery commissioners were brought up to date by Hazel Young, who volunteered her time to do this. This was a task, which involved a great deal of time and is beneficial not only to us, but to the entire community and to Hazel we extend our profound thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

Wesley Dwelly
Maude Stone
Robert Whyte

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The conservation commission holds its regular business meetings and most hearings on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30p.m. in the selectmen's room.

During the past year the commission held 12 business meetings, 15 hearings and conducted numerous site visits. As a result of these hearings, 9 order of conditions, 3 determinations of applicability, 2 enforcement orders, and 2 extension permits were issued. Members also responded to several inquiries by residents concerning actions occurring in wetland areas.

It should also be noted that due to legal perspectives, the members found it necessary to consult Town Council for an opinion and to retain the services of a consulting engineer for one subdivision. These events resulted in a letter and more in depth study of the new River Protection Act.

We received and accepted with regret a letter of resignation from Raymond Zecco who had served on the Board for several years. We were pleased to welcome Roland Ruel as our newest member in January.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Blanchard, Chairman
Lucy Tessnau, Clerk
Joyce Megarry, Secretary
Roland Ruel
Mark Stellato, Enforcement Officer

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

During Fiscal 1998 the COA offered two additional activities, which we felt were successful. On August 20 we sponsored a luncheon at the Public House in Sturbridge. Thirty-two seniors joined us for a delicious meal and a most enjoyable afternoon. We hope to sponsor another next year. As a prelude to our October 4 trip to the Yankee Candle Factory in South Deerfield, we viewed a video at our September meeting to acquaint those interested in taking this trip with us. Eleven of us traveled to the candle factory. It was a beautiful day, the weather certainly cooperated and the foliage was still bright.

The November shopping trip was canceled due to a lack of interest. In December 60 fruit baskets were delivered to our friends who had achieved their 75th birthday and / or beyond. We were very grateful to the Girl Scouts for their enthusiastic support in delivering these fruit baskets. We also thank these girls for their much needed help in setting up the tables and decorating for the annual Valentine's Dinner. We had one of the largest gatherings ever at this year's party. A big thank you goes to the Lions Club for their generous sponsorship of the dinner and to the members of the Oakham Congregational Church who give their time to shop to prepare and serve the delicious meal (and, oh, those home made pies!). The cards made by the Brownies and the poster created by the 3rd grade class at the Center School were a special surprise.

Also of note, there were approximately 288 rides on the Elderbus; approximately 2,596 meals were served at the Nutrition Site. Members of the 6th grade continue to help at the Nutrition Site

on Fridays for Community Service. The annual Bar-B Q at the Nutrition Site in July was a great success this year.

We ended our year on a sad note, as we had to say good-bye to our faithful member and friend Vic Smichinski. For many years Vic drove our members on shopping trips, volunteered at the Nutrition site helped with the surplus food distribution, and always took charge of the raffle at our annual Valentine's Dinner, one of his most favorite events. To his, wife Mary and his entire family we offer our most sincere condolences. Vic, our meetings are just not the same. We miss you.

REPORT OF THE LIBRIRIAN

1998, was another busy, productive year, due in part to the active participation of our trustees and the many volunteers who willingly gave their time, making it possible to continue our expanded hours. For new residents, and infrequent library visitors, these hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday evenings 7:00 to 9:30 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

We continue to offer story hours for 2-5 year olds on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and a summer program for school age youngsters in August. The August program is available to any Oakham youngster who can read. It is jointly sponsored by the Central Mass Regional Library, the Oakham Cultural Council and our library. For further information call the library, during regular hours, at 882-3372.

Our fax machine, computers and copiers are available for public use and any books we don't have in the library are available within a few days through the inter-loan department at CMRL. If a book is out there and available for loan we can get it for you. Hard to find books may take a bit longer to locate, but are often available through this system. However, books for school projects should be asked for as soon as the child is aware of what is needed, but our fax machine and the good will of the Worcester Public Library often produces wonders and we can save parents a trip into the city or to another library. We care about each patron and make every effort to fulfill each and every request. If you haven't taken advantage of our inter-loan request service, give us a try. To date, we have issued 971, library cards and hope to reach the 1000 mark well before the year 2000. If you don't have a card we'll be happy to welcome you as a library member. Membership is free and the benefits are many.

In closing, I want to thank our trustees, our volunteers, the Friends of the Library, all who donate books, our story hour mothers, the fire department for their help at Christmas, and the many who made monetary donations. I enjoy the challenge of helping you find what you need or want and only ask that you remember that while videos sometimes make good baby sitters, and computers are great help, sharing a story with your child will make lasting memories, and a computer won't do you much good if you don't read.

Respectfully submitted,

Maude Stone, Librarian

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Year End Report for the Fiscal Year 1998, July 1, 1997 through June 30, 1998

The year was a busy one for the Trustees. Regular business and plans for the year kept the two active trustees busy. In February, Trustee Lois B. Linehan died after a long illness. Lois had been a trustee for four terms. She had been a major force in leading the Trustees to the Renovation and Construction Grant stage. In March, Lisa Lajoie was appointed to fill in and then in May, Lisa was elected to fill out the remainder of Lois's term. We all miss Lois and vow to carry on. Dawn Thistle was re-elected to her second term in May.

February saw the Quabbin Community Orchestra performing for St. Valentines Day. This event was funded by a Cultural Council Grant. It was delightful to have string music in the Library, and they enjoyed playing as the vaulted ceiling gives the music a wonderful tone.

In March the Trustees were proud to host the Robert Wile Children's Art Festival, funded by a private donation to the Library. This year's theme was Bookmarks. There were a lot of entries and they were all wonderful. Come to the library in mid-March and enjoy the excitement.

Anticipation of having the State Library Renovation and Construction Grant finally funded as Oakham climbed toward the top of the funding list consumed most of the end of the year. When the Library is finally funded, there will be a lot of work to do, having construction plans drawn and going out to bid for the project before the Trustees can accept the money from the State and the actual construction can begin. In the mean time, it is business as usual while we wait.

The huge spruce on the corner, The Robinson Tree, was cut and replaced by a small tree. It was a sad decision to do so, but both the Fire Department Association and the Trustees felt that the tree was too big to be decorated (it's intended purpose), and it was beginning to encroach on the Library. The new tree was donated by the Mardirosian Family. Several people discovered the dedication plaque that has long been there, honoring John Robinson. It is the hope of the Trustees that a new or additional plaque can be added with Annie Robinson's name on it. The Trustees held the second annual photography contest as part of the Yankee Fair. There were 25 exhibitors and the photographs were wonderful. A Cultural Council Grant made possible the mailing of an entry form to each household in town. Please get out your cameras. There is a category for almost every photograph! There is no entry fee, this is a ribbon only, fun contest. Come see the photos and join in!

The Trustees entered into a contract with a Westborough corporation, EVA, to handle our 24 periodical subscriptions. This represents only a minor savings in dollars for the Library, but a huge time saver to the Trustees, the Town Accountant and Town Treasurer, one check, one time, instead of 24!

The facility was used three times over the year by MDC watershed folks as they needed a place to host a meeting. The Parents Advisory Council (PAC) Scholarship used the building for their annual meeting. The Oakham Cemetery Committee uses the building regularly for their meetings. Though the facility is not accessible to the physically challenged, consider it for your organizations next meeting. It's a nice warm and cozy place!

Back in 1996, when the State Renovation and Construction Grant was being written, Maude Stone, our Librarian, asked the State Board of Library Commissioners if it would be possible to save the State Incentive Grant to Public Libraries to be used toward the cost of construction. With their blessing, the Trustees have been able to save just over \$7734 with the addition of this year's grant.

The final items held at the library belonging to the Oakham Historical Association have now moved to their new home in the Oakham Historical Museum.

The Board of Trustees assisted The Friends of the Fobes Memorial Library, Inc. to achieve Federal and Massachusetts Tax Exempt Status and Massachusetts Public Charity listing. This is vital to the construction project, as the Friends will be called upon to raise money to assist with the project and to help with the furnishings once the project nears completion. Volunteer Librarians, members of the Friends, provide the library with four and a half hours of free library staffing each week. Currently the Friends run a second-hand clothing sale in the library using the funds to maintain the library copy machine that they purchased for the library several years ago. The Friends held the second very successful Dungeon of Death in the Library basement. The Friends sold patriotic items at Memorial Day and used books at the Church Holiday Bazaar 1997 and the Yankee Fair in June. The Friends hosted the very popular, free, Library Christmas Tea and Tree Lighting with entertainment by the Allards, a very popular, nationally known, musical duo from Worcester. The Friends group is extremely important to the Library and the Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan B. Turnbull
Lisa Lajoie
Dawn Thistle

REPORT OF THE FOBES MEMORIAL LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE

Report of the Fobes Memorial Building Committee for Fiscal 1998

Not much has changed since last years report. The approved project to renovate and modestly expand the library continues to await funding from the State. Our hopes were very high that Oakham would make it to the top of the list in July 1998, but it was not to be as S.B. 2013 was not funded or signed by the governor in the final hours of the joint congressional session. Thus, the committee sits and waits. There is the hope that the State will increase their funded amount to account for inflation between the approved date and the actual construction date. The committee strategy is that once the money becomes available, the clock starts to tick upon the six month time to accept the money, the committee will begin with hiring an architect, having construction drawings done (funded by the Library Trust), going out to bid and finally, knowing the bottom number, decide to accept or decline the State money based on the final dollar amount.

Susan Turnbull was elected chairman.

Respectfully submitted,

Charl Van Schoick
Ralph Dwelly
Susan Turnbull.

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

During the past year, the building committee held 23 regular meetings to plan and execute the construction of a new public safety facility for the Town. Having selected the architectural firm of Reinhardt Associates the previous year, by the Spring of this year we were ready to proceed with putting the project out to bid. In April the bids were received and the project was awarded to Construction Dynamics Co., of Fitchburg for a total cost of \$771,000 including all subcontractors. The contracts were reviewed and signed and the project was under way.

Before construction could begin, the first order of business was for the Town to remove the old highway department building and relocate any utility lines that were in the way of the new building. Once this was done, the site work began in early Summer.

Shortly after the project began, the committee decided that a clerk of the work should be hired to over see the project. We advertised for the position, and after interviewing the few candidates that responded, we hired Bernie Zisk of Ware for the job.

It took all Summer to complete the site work, septic system, and pour the concrete floors and foundation for the building. The plumbing, electrical and heating systems were completed and by the end of the year the building was ready to occupy. Although a few problems still remained for total acceptance, a temporary occupancy was allowed and the two departments moved in.

Having vacated the old fire station, the contractors now began work on the conversion of the building to a new police station. By the end of January, this too should be completed and all three departments will have new facilities.

In additions to the regular committee meetings, members of the committee attended nearly all of the 30+ job meetings, and made over 60 site visits during the construction phase. We made every effort to ensure that the project was completed on time and within the budget approved by the Town. We believe that this facility is well deserved by the three departments, and should be a source of pride for all the citizens of Oakham for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Lajoie, Chairman
Leo McCaffrey
Mike Russ
Denis delaGorgendiere

P.S. The committee would also like to thank Ellenor Downer and Denis Dillon, who had previously served on the committee, for their efforts in seeing this project to completion.

REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Parks and Recreation committee carried out many activities during the Fiscal Year 1998.

In July, swimming lessons were held at Coldbrook Country Club with 48 children attending. The classes were taught by swim instructor Jodi Nash. Fun in the Sun activities were also held in July attended by children of all ages. Entertainment was provided by Trevor the Games Man and Pumpnickel Puppets (both of whom were funded by arts council grants).

We offered our annual Scarecrow contest on the common, to start off our Halloween celebration. On Halloween night the children marched in a parade, escorted by the Oakham Fire Dept., and Oakham Police Dept., from the Town Hall to the center school. A costume party was held at the school and was judged by the Couples Club.

Our 7th annual Holiday House-decorating contest was held in December with prizes being awarded at the Library Tea.

On Memorial Day a small group of townspeople traveled to the town cemeteries; on bus donated by McCarthy Bus Co., to place flags to mark our veterans graves. The Oakham Fire Dept., escorted us to the cemeteries. Taps were played at the cemeteries by Jeff Nahkala and Conrad Johnson. A small parade and Memorial Day activities were held in the center of town. Our guest speaker was Eva Grimes, a WWII veteran. Edward Mellor was driven in the parade in an antique car owned by Oscar Sanford.

In June more than 50 children attended the fishing derby, held at Pine Acres Campground. After all of the fish were caught and measured prizes were awarded and a family cookout was held.

We closed out our year in June with the 8th Annual OLD TYME YANKEE FAIR. Activities started Friday night with the block party. At the party was a classic car show and music provided by "The Otters". Saturday's activities included a garden tractor pull, doll and bike parade, dog and rabbit shows, rides and amusements, a talent show, and night concluded with a bon fire.

The Parks and Recreation committee would like to extend special thanks to the OFD, OPD, OYS, PAC, the Lions Club and all other town organizations clubs and citizens for your support.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Apholt
Ellie Downer
Lisa Martone
Carrie McCaffrey
Christine Toomey
Timothy Toomey
Liz Sansoucy

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

We are pleased to submit this report of the Oakham Planning Board of 1998. Regularly scheduled meetings are currently held at the Town Hall, on the third Monday of each month. Additional meetings are always posted in advance, in accordance with the Massachusetts Public Meeting Law. Public hearings are advertised with the Legal Notices in the Worcester Telegram; public hearing notices are also posted at the Town Hall, the Post Office, the Route 148 Convenience Store, and the Oakham Country Store.

ANR / "Approval Not Required" Plan

Five ANR survey plans were presented to the Board for review, creating a total of twenty new lots. Each plan was in compliance with the Town's subdivision bylaw requirements for frontage and area, and each was signed by the Board members.

Special Permits

Responding to requests for Special Permit uses addressed in the Town Bylaws, the application and hearing process resulted in the approval of one new Special Permit.

Revisions to the Town Bylaws

Bylaw revisions are currently being drafted to address past and future issues of importance to the Town. The completed drafts will be presented to a public hearing, after which it will come before the voters for their consideration.

Residents' written comments to the Planning Board are always welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Warbasse, Chairman
Tom Hughes
Mark Turnbull
Peter Clifford
Nancy Pettyjohn

REPORT OF THE TREE WARDEN

During Fiscal 1998 sixteen diseased or dead trees were removed. Twelve of the removals were performed by Massachusetts Electric tree crews at no costs to the Town.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wesley H. Dwelly

REPORT OF THE VETERANS AGENT

The Department of Veterans Services manages and oversees the municipal benefit entitlement program. A program that is administered by Veteran's Directors, agents in every city, town or district in the Commonwealth for emergency financial assistance, for food, clothing, shelter, health, and medical benefits to eligible wartime veterans and their dependents. One of the Veteran's agents responsibility is to locate and oversee the resting place of all veterans in the Town of Oakham, so respect is given to those who gave the ultimate price for freedom. I have belonged to as many veterans groups my service allows. Travel to reunions, take part in P.O.W. and M.I.A. ceremonies in order to hear and feel the needs of our veterans. I am proud to know that thousand of veterans are treated each year to the rest of our abilities. Rules are changing for the veteran and updated each year, any questions call me at 882-5567.

Thank you for allowing me to serve again.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard W. Hardy, Jr.
US AF Vietnam Vet 1958-1963 S.A.C.

REPORT OF THE WIRING INPSECTOR

In the past year, a total of 46 wiring permits were taken out in Oakham. The breakdown as follows:

Commercial	5	New Dwellings	8	Additions	6
New Services	13	Temporary Services	3	Barns	2
Garages	2	Swimming Pools	2	Renovations/Repairs	5

Total number of inspections 77

Respectfully submitted,

Denis delaGorgendiere

REPORT OF THE ZONING APPEALS BOARD

The main focus of our work this year centered on the case referred to us in April, 1997. In dealing with the rules of grandfathering the Zoning Board issued a denial. We were notified on July 10, 1997 that an appeal of our decision was filed in Land Court. The case finally went to trial in February, 1998 and we are awaiting a final decision from the court.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Tessnau, Chairman	Roy Spinney, Vice Chairman
Gunter Mueller, Clerk	Carol Spinney, alternate

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

QUABBIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

OAKHAM CENTER SCHOOL

QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL RATE OF REGULAR COMPENSATION

QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Barre • Hardwick • Hubbardston • New Braintree • Oakham

ADMINISTRATION

Maureen M. Marshall, Superintendent of Schools
Donald F. Raffier, Director of Administrative Services
R. Cherie Majoy, D.Ed., Director of Special Services

OAKHAM CENTER SCHOOL

Duncan Stewart, Principal

QUABBIN REGIONAL MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

Joseph Maga, High School Dean of Administration & Management
Susanne Musnicki, Middle School Dean of Administration & Management

1998 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Dr. Richard Allan	Barre
Caron Coakley	Oakham
Fran Gromelski	Barre
Pam Hinckley	Hardwick
Barbara Hubbard	Hubbardston
Edward Kelly	Hardwick
Edward Leonard	Hubbardston
James Mazik	Hardwick
Daniel O'Brien	Barre
George Richardson	Barre
Vincent Ritchie	Hubbardston
Gordon Smith	Barre
Dr. Thomas Tashjian	Oakham
Peggy Thompson	New Braintree

1997 SCHOOL COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Chair, Edward Leonard
Vice-chair, George Richardson
Executive Secretary, Reneé Markiewicz
Treasurer, David Johnson
Parliamentarian, Maureen Marshall

QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Quabbin Regional School District enjoyed a relatively quiet period during the 1998 calendar year. For the first time in over a decade, school construction projects were complete and students and staff were able to work and learn in state of the art school facilities on a "normal" school day schedule. While administrators and plant and facilities personnel continued to work to finalize lingering "punch-list" items, the status of school facilities in all towns except Hubbardston are sufficient to house current and projected school populations. In Hubbardston, the start of new home construction and the change in local town demographics are a cause of concern. The present elementary school plant in Hubbardston is at (or slightly in excess) of capacity. Thus, in response to the prediction that projected school enrollment in Hubbardston will continue to increase, the Quabbin Regional School District Committee voted to appoint a Hubbardston Building Needs Committee to ascertain future elementary school building needs within that community.

Aside from the District's efforts to provide the most up-to-date and appropriate school facilities, parents, teachers and administrators within the District have worked extremely hard to continue to provide sound and challenging academic programs for all students in grades K-12. Much has been done by classroom teachers to ensure that classroom activities are aligned with state curriculum guidelines. Such efforts have been supported by professional programs offered to all educators throughout the District. These training programs have helped teachers and administrators to improve upon current school district practices and programs. During the year, there has been a strong focus on developing and implementing strategies to increase student achievement. This focus has been stimulated by statewide efforts to increase academic standards to all students across the Commonwealth.

Student and staff use of available technology within the District has continued to increase as school budget and state and federal grant funds have been used to expand the amount of available hardware and software within each school. Keeping pace with the technology needs and related programs continues to be a district priority.

While elementary student enrollment appears to have stabilized in all towns except Hubbardston, the need to add staff at the high school to meet the demands of increased enrollment at those grade levels continues to strain state and local budget allocations. Additionally, it is an increasingly difficult task to attract appropriate and talented teachers to the classroom.

In an effort to ensure the most effective use of school time, there has been considerable study of the current arrangement of both the school day and school year schedules. To date, there has been some restructuring of the school day schedules at all grade levels to increase actual instructional time (i.e. time when teachers and students are actively involved in learning activities). During the past year, the staff devoted many hours to the review and evaluation of different school year schedules that would facilitate better the learning process. However, many factors made **significant** changes in the traditional September - June school schedule impractical at this time. Needless to say, the need to continue to investigate ways to use better time allocated for "school" needs to be aggressively pursued.

As always, we are deeply committed to providing quality educational programs for each and every student who attends school within the Quabbin Regional School District. Such is a challenging commitment for all of us in the Quabbin communities. Not only does this challenge demand fiscal resources, it also demands an investment of our time and energy. The children of our community deserve nothing less than our best efforts. They are our legacy and our gift to and our hope for the next century.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen M. Marshall
Superintendent of Schools

QUABBIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL High School Dean of Administration & Management End of Year Report -- 1997-1998

In the fall of 1997 Quabbin Regional High School opened in the new/renovated facility on a single session schedule. New faculty members included Charlotte Gareau, teacher of English, Wallace Hall, teacher of Special Education and Gregory Devine, who transferred to the Guidance Department.

The end of four years of double sessions was welcomed by students, staff and parents. A concerted effort was made by middle and high school administrators to insure a smooth transition from the double session schedule to a single schedule. A good portion of the year was dedicated to finding the best use of all the areas of the facility for middle and high school students. A special note of thanks goes to Sue Musnicki, Cathy Scanlan and Ted Gumula for their efforts in this regard.

High school teachers with individual department chairpersons continued to implement the State Curriculum Frameworks in their respective areas. Teachers continued to revise specific units of study to incorporate the state frameworks.

The following activities are worthy of note:

- The annual Poetry Conference, organized by English teacher Jim Beschta, was held at Coldbrook Country Club. The oldest conference of its kind in the Commonwealth welcomed approximately one hundred high school poets from fifteen schools in Central Massachusetts.
- Quabbin Regional High School and the Environthon Team were awarded the Peggy Jorritsma Annual Environthon Award in recognition of "Inspired Leadership in the Advancement of Environmental Education".
- A profile of the 140 graduates of the Class of 1998 reveals a membership which includes 3% entering the military; 12% joining the work force; 2% Foreign Exchange Students. It is also worth noting that 83% of the members of the Class of 1998 will continue their education with the assistance of 269 scholarships valued at \$428,585 the first year and \$1,001,213 over a four year period.
- Students in grades nine through twelve who received academic and achievement awards were honored in June at a breakfast with family members.
- Quabbin Regional High School hosted a Non-User Conference which was attended by 100 high school students from the surrounding area. The purpose of the conference was to build support for students who choose not to use alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Barbara Conti, Health Services Coordinator organized the program with the group, Addiction Prevention.
- Drama Club members Kate Guillette and Amanda Hakala received Outstanding Actor Awards and Sara Gariety received the Outstanding Stage Manager's Award at the Massachusetts High School Drama Guild Competition in Dalton, Massachusetts. The Drama Club's presentation was entitled Dreams and Nightmares.
- Quabbin Regional High School was well represented in the Boston Globe-Scholastic Art Awards, which started with student entries in January. Students who entered the competition were seniors: Liam Malley (Gold Key Award), Jessica Rosenkranz (portfolio nominee-national level/individual entry-Honorable Mention) and Eileen Torni (Honorable Mention Award), junior Brennan Adams, sophomores Kirsten Hengst (Gold Key Award), Frank Bassett (Silver Key Award), Dan Caron, Haley Jensen, Elizabeth Zepp (Honorable Mention), and Ben Crozier.

The 1997-1998 school year has been an exciting one for all of us at Quabbin Regional High School. We appreciate the efforts of the citizens of the Quabbin communities for providing us with a modern, well-equipped facility which will help us meet the challenges of educating students for the twenty-first century. We are most grateful for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph F. Maga
Dean of Administration and Management

QUABBIN REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
Middle School Dean of Administration & Management
End of Year Report -- 1997-1998

During the 1997-1998 school year, Quabbin Middle School returned to a regular schedule. School hours were 7:15am to 1:50pm.

To promote a smoother transition, orientation nights were held on September 1, 1997 for seventh grade and September 3, 1997 for eighth grade. So that parents and students could meet teachers and learn classroom expectations, student schedules were distributed and a mock schedule was followed.

A grade seven overnight was held on May 21, 1998 with a Greek Olympics theme to coincide with the social studies study of ancient Greece. Among the many activities students participated in were: sports events "under the lights" on Alumni Field and a Greek dance performance by Hellenic Dance Ensemble.

On June 19, 1998, the seventh grade traveled to New York City. Their tour included the Empire State Building and a three-hour boat tour around Manhattan Island.

After an interdisciplinary study of Washington, DC, 160 eighth grade students and chaperones left for a three night, four day trip to our nation's capital. Their trip included the Smithsonian museums, Arlington Cemetery, the National Cathedral, and a bus tour of Washington, DC.

Beginning the week of May 4, 1998, our eighth grade students participated in the first MCAS tests. Our staff put in a great deal of time and effort to prepare students who worked very hard over a three-week period on these difficult tests.

On May 26, 1998, sixty grade eight students who met the qualifications of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.

For the first time in two years, our interscholastic sports schedule returned to afternoons with winter events being held in the Quabbin Middle School gymnasium. Our very successful teams included boys and girls soccer, field hockey, cross country, cheerleading, boys and girls basketball, wrestling, baseball, softball, and track.

The Middle School band and chorus presented an Octoberfest concert in October, a holiday concert in December, and an end of the year concert in May. February 28, 1998, twenty-three band members and five chorus members participated in Quabbin Valley Music Festival held in Palmer, MA. Thirty band members and eleven chorus members auditioned for Central District Music Festival held in May. Eighteen band and two chorus members were chosen to participate.

In May, students achieving honor roll status for the three marking terms and their parents were honored at a breakfast prepared and served by their teachers and office staff. Students in both grades seven and eight received academic awards during awards programs held in late June.

On June 25, 1998, grade eight graduation was held in the Quabbin High School gymnasium.

We appreciate the support that has been given to our students and staff by the Quabbin Regional School District community.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne R. Musnicki
Dean of Administration and Management

**OAKHAM CENTER SCHOOL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL
1997-98 SCHOOL YEAR**

September of 1997 found us once again opening school with staff changes:

- * Mrs. Wendy Castriotta joined us as a first grade teacher filling in during Mrs. Stockwell's leave of absence.
- * Ms. Jill Foy joined our staff as Special Education Teacher in the Integrated Kindergarten program.
- * Ms. Susan Kirchhausen assumed the role of Strings Teacher while Mr. Killough-Miller was on sabbatical.
- * Mrs. Heidi Renauld became our Vocal Music Teacher while Ms. Manning was on sabbatical.
- * In March of 1998, Ms. Laurie Simisky joined our staff in grade two as Mrs. Wright began her maternity leave.

Among the notable happenings of the year were:

- * The music program once again provided the school and community with several wonderful concerts.
- * The sixth grade once again participated in the DARE program sponsored by the Oakham Police Department. DARE Officer David Halsdorff provided students with an informative and valuable program.
- * Barbara Dietrich, Storyteller, sponsored by the Arts Council, came to share her wonderful stories and techniques with the students of pre-school through grade six.
- * As part of our continuing focus on diversity we were fortunate to have a day long presentation of Native American Songs and Storytelling. This activity was sponsored by the Parents Advisory Council.
- * Also sponsored by the "PAC" was a day with "Johnny The K". Devoted to music and positive self esteem, "Johnny the K" involved all students pre-school through grade 6 in a day of interactive music that left us all singing.

- * Students of grade four took part in the first ever Massachusetts Curriculum Assessment Testing program. Taking mornings for the better part of two weeks in early May, this state developed test looks to improve student achievement, teacher performance and overall school effectiveness. As a school we look forward to the results becoming available in November, 1998, so that we may develop a school-wide program of improvement.

One of the most exciting and meaningful events of the year was the dedication of our school yearbook to Mr. Richard "Dick" Riley. The Yearbook staff selected Mr. Riley for this special honor.

The yearbook dedication states: "We are dedicating the yearbook to Mr. Riley because he has helped us for many years. He has helped with the Australian Projects and the fourth grade Indian Projects. He always comes to see the projects the classes put on display. He has volunteered at the school in many ways, for example; he has helped us in the computer room and as a chaperone to Old Sturbridge Village. He has been a good link between the school and the Oakham Community. We thank you for all you have done. You have been very special to all of us. "

The Staff and Administration would like to echo the thoughts of the students. Mr. Riley has been a wonderful asset to the Oakham Center School and a role model for all of us to follow.

As always, the primary focus of the Oakham Center School was upon helping students strive for excellence. The 1997-98 event-filled school year culminated in the graduation from grade six of thirty-three young men and women. As they prepare to move on to middle school, we are confident that the Oakham Center School has provided them with a solid foundation for the future ahead.

We look forward to the 1998/99 school year and the educational challenges that await us. Staff and students thank the community for the continued support given to us.

Respectfully Submitted,

Duncan L. Stewart

QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL RATE OF REGULAR COMPENSATION, 1998

Adams, Cheryl	\$52,999	Bryant, Jacqueline	\$53,701
Afonso, Nancy	\$33,206	Buck, Gaylene	\$13,104
Allen, Michael	\$25,002	Burnett, William	\$43,271
Anderson, Margaret	\$23,298	Capurso, Jane	\$37,051
Anderson, Maureen	\$38,678	Carey, Kyle	\$49,014
Anderson, Patricia	\$47,230	Carlin, Albert	\$53,881
Appleton, Jane	\$48,545	Carpenter, Mark	\$26,056
Arnold, Lucinda	\$35,031	Castriotta, Matthew	\$44,348
Aronson, David	\$33,618	Castriotta, Wendy	\$31,103
Audette, Bernard	\$30,316	Catelotti, Diane	\$ 4,161
Balser, Melanie	\$ 4,169	Celona, Richard	\$25,153
Barnes, Clare	\$12,708	Chapman, Suann	\$24,355
Bart-Raber, Kerry	\$35,579	Chiasson, Linda	\$50,429
Bastarache, James	\$28,188	Cilley, Paul	\$55,275
Beaudet, Kristine	\$37,448	Cirelli, John	\$ 9,944
Beaudoin, Cynthia	\$22,757	Cirelli, Kathleen	\$10,911
Beaudry, Danielle	\$37,073	Clough, Barbara	\$22,149
Beauregard, Lisa	\$34,573	Colby, Beverly	\$36,499
Bechan, Helen	\$17,269	Collins, Joanne	\$47,100
Benouski, A. Doreen	\$45,904	Comiskey, Thomas	\$48,290
Bernard, Robin	\$ 5,111	Como, Mary	\$11,729
Berthiaume, Aaron	\$11,975	Comptois, Claire	\$11,842
Berthiaume, Gail	\$25,861	Connor, Carol	\$14,678
Berthiaume, Valerie	\$13,731	Consolmagno, Teresa	\$12,366
Berube, Lynne	\$23,823	Conti, Barbara	\$44,751
Beschta, James	\$49,628	Coons, Kristen	\$42,894
Beschta, Mary	\$46,168	Coppolino, Peter	\$26,179
Bettez, Ernest	\$44,876	Cranston, Patricia	\$45,968
Bohigian, Eileen	\$47,804	Crawford, Barbara	\$12,683
Boilard, Roger	\$50,267	Crawford, Eileen	\$ 8,000
Boissy, Gail	\$ 8,039	Creeden, Cheryl	\$46,728
Bolger, Brent	\$12,011	Cresto, Glenda	\$31,551
Bolger, Sandra	\$33,551	Cure, Sonia	\$51,506
Boronski, Chester	\$47,078	Cushing, Helen	\$33,905
Bottomley, Rebecca	\$11,973	Dahart, Harold	\$26,081
Bourgeois, Nancy	\$52,444	Dalve, John	\$46,480
Brandon, Catherine	\$54,519	Dauwalter, Robin	\$46,907
Bray, Marsha	\$48,054	Daviau, Christine	\$49,089
Bray, Richard	\$42,269	Deacetis, Sandra	\$ 7,750
Brearley, Deborah	\$25,759	Derr, Cheryl	\$34,266
Brennan, Janie	\$11,376	Deschamps, David	\$49,240
Brewer, Christine	\$33,061	Desilets Kathleen	\$11,940
Briand, Ann Marie	\$13,646	Desilets, Richard	\$22,298
Briand, Constance	\$14,776	Devine, Gregory	\$42,946
Bristol, Christine	\$47,804	Dextrateur, Dennis	\$52,771
Brooker, Virginia	\$34,500	Dickson, Pamela	\$13,278
Brown, Theodore	\$51,158	Dietrich, Barbara	\$28,638
Browne, Kim	\$39,791	Dignan, Kenneth	\$45,938
Brushett, Lauren	\$ 6,221	DiMartino, Michele	\$47,196
		Dodge, Paula	\$11,086
		Dolan, Charlotte	\$16,810
		Dougal, Mary Ann	\$49,089
		Dowgielewicz, Jill	\$32,455
		Doyle, Kimberly	\$37,282

Ducharme, Denise	\$51,817	Hillman, Karen	\$30,982
Duhamel, Joseph	\$52,725	Holmes, Catherine	\$11,251
Dupill, Patricia	\$14,240	Holwell, Kathleen	\$45,424
Durand, Susan	\$ 5,060	Horrigan, Nancy	\$35,031
Durepo, Heidi	\$ 4,098	Howard, Ashley	\$43,917
Dwelly, Phyllis	\$38,709	Howard, Ethel	\$ 2,784
Ellis, Karen	\$43,595	Howard, Patricia	\$48,839
Enos, Evelyn	\$11,086	Huard, Jennifer	\$35,968
Ericson, Candace	\$14,403	Huard, Steven	\$31,362
Farrell, Matthew	\$34,536	Hubbard, Donna	\$47,313
Fay, Cheryl	\$13,841	Hudec-Surette, Barbara	\$14,508
Femino, Martha	\$53,904	Hurley, Richard	\$47,234
Ferguson, Susan	\$33,061	Ikonen, Robyn	\$32,364
Fiske, Denise	\$22,181	Inman, Kathlyn	\$35,375
Flagg, Susan	\$33,661	Inzerillo, Sandra	\$ 5,385
Foley, Janet	\$46,635	Irwin, Richard	\$26,213
Foss, Danja	\$12,998	Johnson, David	\$ 6,724
Franklin, Kellee	\$34,453	Johnson, Kathleen	\$46,264
Frazier, Laurie	\$31,530	Johnson, Naida	\$55,815
Fritscher, Gerald	\$30,100	Johnson-Correia, Cathy	\$ 8,864
Fritscher, John	\$28,360	Jones, Nancy	\$50,267
Frost, Arthur	\$17,568	Jordan, Mary Ann	\$29,419
Frost, Margaret	\$52,538	Kallio, Carol	\$16,080
Frost, Marilyn	\$50,267	Kane, Kevin	\$54,360
Galat, Janice	\$10,607	Kielinen, Donna	\$34,765
Gancorz, Carol	\$48,054	Killough-Miller, Russell	\$27,959
Gareau, Charlotte	\$33,610	Kirchhausen, Susan	\$31,301
Gartner, Victor	\$50,771	Kmiec, Gladys	\$15,205
George, Elizabeth	\$33,147	Knittle, Robert	\$55,356
George, Sybil	\$17,697	Koerner, Andrew	\$39,382
Glodas, Claudia	\$48,693	Konde, Beverly	\$43,009
Goetz, Gregory	\$37,930	Kovach, Cynthia	\$19,391
Gordon, Kelly	\$19,177	Kowal, Patricia	\$14,696
Gordon, Peter	\$34,161	Kozlowski, John	\$58,355
Grandone, Roberta	\$63,518	Kozlowski, Kara	\$30,810
Groves, Priscilla	\$34,703	Kularski, Ellen	\$24,060
Guertin, Frank	\$62,775	LaCroix, Sandra	\$33,940
Gumula, Thaddeus	\$55,788	Lakso, Patricia	\$32,714
Gumula, Virginia	\$40,536	Lam, Nicolette	\$15,580
Gunnarson, Russell	\$15,139	LaMarche, Marrion	\$ 6,876
Haddad, Gita	\$47,804	LaMontagne, Phyllis	\$21,165
Haley, Christopher	\$35,427	LaMontagne, Roger	\$35,962
Hall, Elaine	\$48,415	Lapati, Dona	\$47,058
Hall, Michelle	\$11,153	LaPerle, Lu-Ann	\$11,671
Hall, Wallace	\$36,542	LaRose, Susan	\$36,416
Hanson, Donna	\$25,442	LeBlanc, Nancy	\$43,595
Harding, Linda	\$26,082	Lechowicz, James	\$30,114
Harrold, Daniel	\$15,539	Lindsay, Susan	\$21,772
Hastings, Virginia	\$51,338	Lohr, Darcy	\$13,461
Havalotti, Phyllis	\$16,534	Lorge, Barbara	\$50,837
Hebert, Jeanne	\$22,217	Lucchesi, Crystal	\$15,641
Hermansky, Virginia	\$13,455	Lussier, Priscilla	\$49,054
Hersey, Marsha	\$38,636	Luukko, Nancy	\$50,017
Hill-Niambele, Stacey	\$37,359	Maga, Joseph	\$62,981

Magnino, John	\$53,350	Ohman, Margaret	\$14,467
Majoy, Brian	\$12,017	Olson, Bethany	\$35,390
Majoy, Rosanne	\$64,573	Omlanowicz, Dorothy	\$50,767
Mammone, Diane	\$23,973	Ortolino, Shannon	\$31,791
Mankowsky, Julie	\$48,839	Osborn, Bette	\$48,839
Markiewicz, Renee	\$37,189	Pacheco, Rebecca	\$18,081
Marshall, Joseph	\$24,782	Panaccione, Janice	\$10,531
Marshall, Margaret	\$47,135	Paradis, Janet	\$38,894
Marshall, Maureen	\$97,579	Parker, Kathleen	\$ 5,372
Martel, Robert	\$47,755	Parsons, Bettyanne	\$32,439
Mascroft, Shirley	\$14,968	Pascale, Helene	\$43,395
Mathis, Susan	\$31,301	Patterson, Camille	\$22,358
McCaffrey, L. Thomas	\$17,936	Patterson, Frank	\$29,044
McCarthy, Kathleen	\$14,493	Paula, Joan	\$66,073
McCarthy, Matthew	\$24,049	Paula, Richard	\$50,484
McCormack, Mary	\$26,163	Peabody, David	\$25,752
McDonald, Sherry	\$12,705	Pearsall, Carol	\$26,182
McDonald, Tracey	\$32,033	Peltier, Joan	\$15,713
McLaughlin, Cherryl	\$18,244	Pereira, Robert	\$48,648
McNamara, Josephine	\$11,614	Perkins, Donna	\$ 9,585
McNiff, Paul	\$47,435	Perreault, Marie	\$14,440
Melanson, David	\$52,621	Peterson, Karla	\$44,809
Melanson, Karen	\$50,374	Petty, Linda	\$40,286
Mennard, Sylvia	\$16,346	Phaneuf, Melissa	\$ 4,259
Mertzic, Linda	\$10,892	Phelan, Helen	\$18,287
Metterville, Elizabeth	\$ 6,283	Phelps, Randall	\$24,130
Millar, Gwynne	\$24,638	Piermarini, Sue	\$30,218
Miller, Bernice	\$17,113	Piper, Wilhelmina	\$52,563
Miller, Karen	\$30,862	Pitisci, Nancy	\$18,689
Millet, Karen	\$ 8,168	Pitisci, Ronald	\$27,982
Mirable, Kathleen	\$13,189	Pitzi, Susan	\$10,743
Moebus, Gary	\$42,197	Plumb, Sandra	\$50,395
Morello, Paul	\$46,841	Poirier, Helen	\$48,839
Morreale, Cathryn	\$37,275	Pope, Colleen	\$ 6,841
Morris, Rebecca	\$42,481	Powiliatis, Denise	\$ 3,496
Morrison, Deborah	\$14,475	Pyle, Charles	\$46,369
Morrison, Elecia	\$15,749	Quido, Joyce	\$13,080
Morrison, Linda	\$10,286	Quinlan, Mary	\$16,633
Muir, Betty	\$45,768	Raffier, Donald	\$86,955
Muir, Sheila	\$37,649	Ratte, Patricia	\$25,971
Murray, Catherine	\$32,439	Redmond, Lisa	\$ 7,036
Musnicki, Susanne	\$59,673	Reed, Florence J.	\$14,614
Nason, Denise	\$31,149	Remelius, Fae E.	\$52,965
Newell, Margaret	\$18,369	Renauld, Heidi	\$22,175
Newton, Edward	\$32,362	Renner, Patricia	\$43,051
Nichols, Carolyn	\$45,928	Ricciardi, Christine	\$14,237
Nichols, Ida	\$14,413	Rice, Linda	\$13,364
Nichols, Sandra	\$50,287	Richards, Alice	\$47,260
Noble, Gail	\$10,089	Rickan, Shawn	\$38,475
Noel, Robert	\$27,727	Robidoux, Elizabeth	\$11,465
O'Connor, Jean	\$15,410	Robinson, Bonnie	\$14,456
O'Donnell, Anna	\$ 1,311	Rogowski, Jean	\$13,007
O'Donnell, Linda	\$46,885	Rogowski, Linda	\$12,925
O'Donnell, Paul	\$26,398	Rosbury, Nancy	\$48,839

Rotti, Janice	\$11,614	Verratti, Kathleen	\$17,504
Rousseau, Julie	\$23,026	Waite, Clarissa	\$39,367
Roy, Shirley	\$14,240	Wassel, Frederick	\$53,823
Rucki, Diana	\$42,441	Webster, Sumner	\$52,559
Ruggles, Kellie	\$31,149	Wheeler, James	\$12,363
Ryding, Carol	\$14,222	White, Kristin	\$33,340
Sacramone, Jason	\$10,862	Whitmore, Carol	\$52,538
Salvadore, Laurie	\$32,541	Widing, Daisy	\$ 9,694
Sampson, Phyllis	\$26,261	Widing, Maureen	\$44,909
Sarabia, Marcelino	\$47,490	Williams, Janeth	\$39,494
Savard, Linda	\$43,885	Williams, Martha	\$15,534
Sawyer, Winslow	\$54,004	Wilson, Mary	\$13,104
Sayre, Patricia	\$43,104	Wisnewski, Brenda	\$15,048
Scanlan, Cathleen	\$56,038	Witaszek, Alice	\$36,765
Schoolcraft, Mary	\$13,380	Worthington, Patricia	\$43,670
Shanks, Deborah	\$12,925	Wright, Kimberly	\$29,686
Sheldon, Arthur	\$39,468	Wrobel, Gail	\$48,054
Sicard, Christina	\$18,379	Wrobel, Linda	\$49,089
Skowyra, Patricia	\$31,729	Wypych Joann	\$11,547
Skrzypczak, Ann	\$50,375	Young, Brian	\$43,760
Snyder, Betty	\$52,538	Youngs, Carol	\$56,213
Sotto, Gilda	\$ 3,958	Zalneraitis, Barbara	\$ 4,077
Sousa, Carol	\$48,137	Zalneraitis, Richard	\$38,348
Spencer, Linda	\$48,496	Zola, Jean	\$46,494
Spooner, John	\$42,845		
Staiti, Kim	\$15,991		
Stekl, Nancy	\$36,169		
Stevens, Erin	\$35,111		
Stewart, Duncan	\$61,949		
Stickle, Richard	\$51,551		
St. Jean, Jan	\$37,460		
Stockwell, Susan	\$14,961		
Stolz, Patricia	\$ 3,047		
Stuart, Debra	\$44,989		
Sullivan, Jeannette	\$17,386		
Sullivan, John	\$64,675		
Sullivan, Ryan	\$14,127		
Szafarowicz, Patricia	\$33,061		
Talevi, Jill	\$ 3,888		
Tancrell, Christine	\$40,265		
Terrien, Deborah	\$47,230		
Thompson, Mary-Lou	\$14,690		
Toomey, Christine	\$10,840		
Turcotte, Jane	\$41,519		
Turcotte, Raymond	\$54,686		
Twarog, Susan	\$51,567		
Vaillancourt, Sasha	\$29,762		
Valardi, Frances	\$26,667		
Valardi, Edward Jr.	\$22,306		
Valardi, Edward Sr.	\$21,612		
VanWert, Kathleen	\$15,951		
Varin, Kerry	\$42,463		
Varnot, Martha	\$47,852		
Verheyen, Dorothy	\$42,009		

FINANCIAL REPORTS

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

TREASURER

TAX COLLECTOR

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors has begun the legwork of the revaluation due for FY 99. It requires an exterior inspection of all property and an interior inspection of 30 percent of all buildings in the Town. During the next four years, all buildings that have not been inspected will need to be included in the cyclical program which is mandated by the State of Massachusetts. This is a time consuming process and the support and cooperation of the townspeople is extremely important understanding that the more accurate our information is, the fairer the tax bill.

TOWN OF OAKHAM RECAPITULATION OF TAX RATE FOR FISCAL 1998

APPROPRIATIONS:

Raise and Appropriate	1,587,626	
Debt and interest	17,948	
Cherry sheet offsets	1,950	
State and County charges	8,607	
Overlay 1998	<u>16,214</u>	
		1,632,345

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS:

Cherry sheet	203,135	
Local receipts	215,000	
Free cash	44,970	
Other available funds	<u>60,450</u>	
		<u>523,555</u>

TOTAL TAXES LEVIED 1,108,790

VALUES AND PERCENTAGES BY CATEGORY:

Residential	91.9494	82,352,712
Commercial	3.6390	3,259,187
Industrial	.9996	895,300
Personal Property	<u>3.4120</u>	<u>3,055,863</u>
TOTAL	100.00	89,563,062

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Usher, chairman
Tabitha Tashjian, clerk
Herman Spinney, 2nd member

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

The Tax Collector received and paid to the Town Treasurer the following amounts. These amounts were received for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1998

Real Estate

1998	\$1,018,137.70
1997	30,095.15
1996	216.48

Personal Property

1998	35,021.40
1997	1,100.90
1996	20.31
1994	46.60
1993	41.70
1992	56.49
1991	49.76
1990	47.56

Motor Vehicle

1998	106,876.24
1997	20,175.16
1996	1,560.06
1995	127.50
1994	155.63

Title V Septic Loan Principal	1,271.84
Title V Septic Loan Interest	1,542.19
Rollback Taxes	22.24
General Fund	1393.97
Flagging Fees for Registry of Motor Vehicles	640.00
Deputy Tax Collector Charges and Fees	2,209.00
Tax Collector Charges and Fees	2,482.00
Interest Added to Delinquent Bills	6968.24
Municipal Lien Certificates	2,350.00
Bank Interest	<u>971.18</u>

TOTAL	\$1,233,579.30
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Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Carpenter
Tax Collector

REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1998

GENERAL FUND

CASH

BALANCE JULY 1 1997	\$323,202.33	
Cash received during the year	\$2,387,770.39	
Cash Available	\$2,710,972.72	
Cash disbursed during the year	\$2,285,267.02	

BALANCE JUNE 30 1998	\$425,705.70	=====

TRUST FUNDS

Library Funds:		
Forbes Mem Library	\$24,127.68	
Oakham Library	\$34,433.33	
Oakham Lib and Park	\$336.63	\$58,897.64

Stabilization Fund		\$53,246.83
Cemetery Funds		\$38,873.91
Sam Dean Legacy Fund		\$7,394.75
War Memorial Fund		\$586.64
Post War Rehab Fund		\$3,052.37
Arts council		\$170.05
Alden Fund:		
Cash	\$41,726.20	
Securities, at cost *	\$5,000.00	\$46,726.20

* Market value of Alden Fund Investments of approximately \$282016.24 are not included. 14030.659 shares at \$20.10 per share.

TOTAL TRUST FUNDS		\$208,948.39
		=====

Respectfully Submitted

Edna G. Holloway
Treasurer

REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1998

<u>ASSETS</u>		<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Cash		Agency - Police Road Detail	24.00
Account Receivables:		Gifts and Donations:F32	
Real Estate 1996	27.76	Ambulance	701.10
Real Estate 1997	2,673.57	Council on Aging	850.30
Real Estate 1998	33,090.19	Library	946.55
		War Memorial	205.00
		Grants:	2,702.95
Personal Property 1990	472.93	Arts Council	1,900.00
Personal Property 1991	494.58	B.O.H. Title V	6,264.39
Personal Property 1992	865.34	B.O.H. Community Management	12,281.10
Personal Property 1993	1,143.03	Council on Aging	1.20
Personal Property 1994	702.36	Fire Department	221.25
Personal Property 1995	578.46	Library	7,734.07
Personal Property 1996	609.88	Police Department	1,002.08
Personal Property 1997	680.9		29,404.09
Personal Property 1998	2,646.84	Revolving Funds:	
		Ambulance Receipts Reserved	32,931.14
Motor Vehicle 1994	324.22	Board of Health Agent	900.00
Motor Vehicle 1995	687.81	Cemetery	2,826.80
Motor Vehicle 1996	520.42	Collector & Deputy Collector Funds	1,082.00
Motor Vehicle 1997	1,924.06	Conservation Wetland Protection	2,882.81
Motor Vehicle 1998	4,931.45	Dog Officer	3,131.17
		Highway Driveway Permits	26,450.00
Tax Titles		Parks & Recreation Fund	203.24
		Town Clerk Fund	303.50
		Treasurer Foreclosures	1,453.50
Other Receivables:		Projects:	72,164.16
Police Federal Block Grant	315.00	Landfill Closure	6,772.87
State Aid to Highways-Chpt 113A	3,577.95	Municipal Building Project	170,000.00
State Aid to Highways-Chpt 113B	149,867.00	Deferred Revenue:	
Highway Snow and Ice Deficit	3,044.74	Motor Vehicle Excise	8,387.96
Cherry Sheet Underestimates	336.00	Tax Titles & Possessions	80,902.03
		Loans Authorized and Unissued	
Loans Authorized:		Notes Payable - Landfill Closure	89,289.99
Municipal Building Project	550,000.00	Overlays Reserved for Abateements	710,000.00
Library Renovation Project	160,000.00	Highway State Aid Chapter 113B	175,000.00
Landfill Closure	175,000.00	Surplus Revenue	16,055.26
			140,389.45
			278,956.03
TOTAL ASSETS	1,690,758.80	TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,690,758.80

	FROM FISCAL 98	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	CREDIT	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE REVENUE	CARRIED OVER TO FISCAL 99
<u>BOARD OF HEALTH:</u>						
Agent's Fees	635.00	0.00	5,645.00	5,380.00	0.00	900.00
Operating Expenses	0.00	654.00	0.00	552.63	101.37	0.00
Comm. Septic Manag. Loan Prog.	0.00	0.00	12,281.10	0.00	0.00	12,281.10
Title V Grant Funds	49,999.97	0.00	23,455.69	67,191.27	0.00	6,264.39
Landfill Capping	23,558.87	0.00	0.00	16,786.00	0.00	6,772.87
Total Board of Health	74,193.84	654.00	41,381.79	89,909.90	101.37	26,218.36
<u>CEMETERY:</u>						
Expenses	0.00	2,550.00	0.00	2,550.00	0.00	0.00
Fund	2,162.69	0.00	7,500.00	6,835.89	0.00	2,826.80
Total Cemetery	2,162.69	2,550.00	7,500.00	9,385.89	0.00	2,826.80
<u>CULTURAL & RECREATION:</u>						
Arts Council	1,505.00	0.00	4,448.00	4,053.00	0.00	1,900.00
Historical Commission	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
Library:						
Expenses	0.00	20,564.00	0.00	20,120.25	443.75	0.00
State Grant	5,785.13	0.00	1,948.94	0.00	0.00	7,734.07
Fines and Donations	328.92	0.00	817.63	200.00	0.00	946.55
Parks and Recreation:						
Expenses	0.00	2,950.00	0.00	2,950.00	0.00	0.00
Fund	553.74	0.00	2,714.68	3,065.18	0.00	203.24
Total Cultural & Recreation	8,172.79	23,614.00	9,929.25	30,388.43	543.75	10,783.86
<u>EDUCATION:</u>						
Center School Emerg. Generator	0.00	8,300.00	0.00	5,660.00	2,640.00	0.00
Quabbin Regional Assessment	0.00	750,979.00	0.00	750,979.00	0.00	0.00
School Bond Fund	0.00	177,796.00	0.00	177,796.00	0.00	0.00
Vocational Education	0.00	81,940.20	0.00	81,940.20	0.00	0.00
Total Education	0.00	1,010,715.20	0.00	1,010,715.20	2,640.00	0.00
<u>EXECUTIVE:</u>						
Town Acct./Admin. Assistant	0.00	16,397.00	0.00	16,132.87	264.13	0.00
Blanket Insurance	0.00	31,370.00	0.00	31,370.00	0.00	0.00
Group Health Insurance	0.00	13,364.08	0.00	13,364.08	0.00	0.00
Wachusett's Home Health	0.00	1,279.00	0.00	1,279.00	0.00	0.00
Meditax - Town Contribution	0.00	3,702.41	0.00	3,701.55	0.86	0.00
Worc. Cnty Retirement Assess.	0.00	17,206.00	0.00	17,206.00	0.00	0.00
Board of Selectmen	0.00	6,294.00	0.00	5,871.20	422.80	0.00
Total Executive	0.00	89,612.49	0.00	88,924.70	687.79	0.00

	FROM FISCAL 98	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	CREDIT	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE REVENUE	CARRIED OVER TO FISCAL 99
<u>FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION:</u>						
Board of Assessors	0.00	18,147.00	0.00	16,938.26	1,208.74	0.00
Finance Committee	0.00	370.00	0.00	183.90	186.10	0.00
Reserve Fund	0.00	16,214.00	0.00	16,214.00	0.00	0.00
Tax Collector	0.00	8,338.00	0.00	8,313.89	24.11	0.00
Tax Collector Charges Due	0.00	0.00	5,022.00	4,231.00	0.00	791.00
Deputy Tax Collector Charges Due	0.00	0.00	2,209.00	1,918.00	0.00	291.00
Tax Collector Tax Titles	0.00	500.00	0.00	10.00	490.00	0.00
Treasurer	0.00	6,936.00	0.00	6,783.32	152.68	0.00
Treasurer Foreclosures	5,063.50	0.00	0.00	3,610.00	0.00	1,453.50
Treasurer Interest on BAN's	0.00	7,510.00	0.00	7,507.50	2.50	0.00
Total Finance Administration	5,063.50	58,015.00	7,231.00	65,709.87	2,064.13	2,535.50
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT:</u>						
Annual Town Report	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	836.30	363.70	0.00
Municipal Building Project Expenses	0.00	2,040.00	0.00	2,040.00	0.00	0.00
Municipal Building Project	30,000.00	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	0.00	0.00
Town Hall Operating	0.00	15,197.00	0.00	12,872.31	2,324.69	0.00
Total General Government	30,000.00	18,437.00	0.00	45,748.61	2,688.39	0.00
<u>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:</u>						
Operating	0.00	36,415.00	0.00	32,941.91	3,473.09	0.00
Salaries	0.00	86,941.00	0.00	83,696.81	3,244.19	0.00
Snow and Ice Removal	0.00	16,575.13	0.00	19,619.87	0.00	(3,044.74)
State Aid Charter 85B	2,181.23	0.00	0.00	2,181.23	0.00	0.00
State Aid Acts 204	24,978.00	0.00	0.00	24,978.00	0.00	0.00
State Aid Chapter 113A	135,266.00	0.00	0.00	135,266.00	0.00	0.00
State Aid Chapter 113B	0.00	0.00	149,867.00	9,477.55	0.00	140,389.45
Total Highway Department	162,425.23	139,931.13	149,867.00	308,161.37	6,717.28	137,344.71
<u>LAND USE:</u>						
Conservation Commission	0.00	2,635.00	0.00	0.00	2,635.00	0.00
Wetland Protection Fund	1,959.48	0.00	1,193.00	269.67	0.00	2,882.81
Central Mass. Regional Planning	0.00	269.00	0.00	269.00	0.00	0.00
Planning Board	0.00	660.00	1,185.00	1,742.57	102.43	0.00
Zoning Appeals Board	0.00	325.00	0.00	50.00	275.00	0.00
Zoning Enforcement Officer	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
Total Land Use	1,959.48	4,389.00	2,378.00	2,831.24	3,012.43	2,882.81

	FROM	TOTAL	CREDIT	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE	CARRIED OVER
	FISCAL 98	APPROPRIATION			REVENUE	TO FISCAL 99
<u>LEGISLATURE, LICENSING, REGISTRATION & CENSUS:</u>						
Moderator	0.00	103.00	0.00	103.00	0.00	0.00
Census	0.00	1,018.00	0.00	756.84	261.16	0.00
Town Clerk Expense	0.00	4,342.00	0.00	4,236.75	105.25	0.00
Town Clerk Fees Due	0.00	0.00	2,948.20	2,644.70	0.00	303.50
Town Elections	0.00	1,061.00	0.00	614.08	446.92	0.00
Total Legislature	0.00	6,524.00	2,948.20	8,355.37	813.33	303.50
<u>OPERATIONS SUPPORT AND OTHER EXPENSES:</u>						
Town Council	0.00	27,346.50	0.00	27,346.50	0.00	0.00
Alden Fund	0.00	0.00	3,300.00	3,300.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Licenses, encumbered	587.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	587.53	0.00
Dog Officer Fund	1,717.88	0.00	4,172.06	2,758.77	0.00	3,131.17
Tree Warden	0.00	350.00	0.00	175.00	175.00	0.00
Dutch Elm Disease	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00
Insect Control - Salary	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
War Memorial Fund	205.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	205.00
Total Operations & Other	2,510.41	28,396.50	7,472.06	34,280.27	762.53	3,336.17
<u>PROTECTIVE INSPECTIONS:</u>						
Animal Inspector	0.00	256.00	0.00	256.00	0.00	0.00
Building Inspector	0.00	0.00	2,737.10	2,737.10	0.00	0.00
Driveway Permits	27,050.00	0.00	1,600.00	2,200.00	0.00	26,450.00
Fire Inspections	0.00	0.00	470.00	460.00	10.00	0.00
Plumbing Inspector	0.00	0.00	520.00	500.00	20.00	0.00
Wire Inspector	0.00	0.00	655.00	655.00	0.00	0.00
Total Protective Inspections	27,050.00	256.00	5,982.10	6,808.10	30.00	26,450.00
<u>PUBLIC SAFETY:</u>						
Ambulance:						
Expenses	0.00	22,675.00	0.00	22,675.00	0.00	0.00
Communications Equipment	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	1,996.05	3.95	0.00
Ambulance Purchase	0.00	79,970.00	0.00	79,412.40	557.60	0.00
Donations	1,218.56	0.00	760.00	1,277.46	0.00	701.10
Receipts Reserved for Approp.	49,975.94	(47,200.00)	30,155.20	0.00	0.00	32,931.14
Civil Defense Director	0.00					0.00
Dispatching Assessment	0.00	25,102.25	0.00	25,102.25	0.00	0.00
Dispatching Enhanced 911	0.00	4,554.00	0.00	0.00	4,554.00	0.00

	FROM FISCAL 98	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	CREDIT	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE REVENUE	CARRIED OVER TO FISCAL 99
Fire Department:						
Expenses	0.00	34,550.00	0.00	34,530.30	19.70	0.00
Four Inch Hose Purchase	0.00	4,005.00	0.00	3,950.00	55.00	0.00
Communications Equipment	0.00	1,450.00	0.00	1,450.00	0.00	0.00
Semi-Automatic Defibulator	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00
State Grant	221.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	221.25
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Police Department:						
Expenses	0.00	29,640.90	0.00	29,637.23	3.67	0.00
Police Crusier Deductible	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
Chief Salary	0.00	38,910.00	0.00	38,910.00	0.00	0.00
Community Policing	660.28	0.00	11,000.00	11,660.28	0.00	0.00
Federal Block Grant	314.29	0.00	0.00	308.70	0.00	5.59
Road Detail	0.00	0.00	1,817.24	1,793.24	0.00	24.00
Dare & Drugs	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	5,978.95	0.00	21.05
Law Enforcement Trust	1,137.12	0.00	950.00	1,111.68	0.00	975.44
Total Public Safety	53,527.44	199,157.15	50,682.44	263,293.54	5,193.92	34,879.57
SPECIAL PROGRAMS:						
Cable T.V. Local Access	0.00	175.00	0.00	168.96	6.04	0.00
Council on Aging	0.00	3,200.00	0.00	2,534.61	665.39	0.00
Council on Aging Herald	956.25	0.00	98.00	203.95	0.00	850.30
Council on Aging State Grant	0.26	0.00	1,500.00	1,499.06	0.00	1.20
Verterans Services	0.00	2,530.00	0.00	1,265.00	1,265.00	0.00
Total Special Programs	956.51	5,905.00	1,598.00	5,671.58	1,936.43	851.50

RESERVE FUND TRANSFERS IN THE GENERAL FUND

Blanket Insurance	1,370.00
Dispatch	102.25
Health Insurance	164.08
Highway Snow & Ice	526.13
Meditax	202.41
Municipal Building Project	2,040.00
Parks & Recreation	250.00
Police	926.90
Tax Collector	500.00
Town Council	3,192.03
Vocational Assessment	6,940.20
Total Reserve Fund Transfer	16,214.00

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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

AMBULANCE	911
POLICE DEPARTMENT	911
NON-EMERGENCY	882-3347
TO REPORT A FIRE	911
FIRE STATION	882-5555
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	882-5556
DOG OFFICER	882-3347
TOWN HALL:	
SELECTMEN	
TOWN CLERK	
TREASURER	
ASSESSORS	
TAX COLLECTOR	882-5549
OAKHAM CENTER SCHOOL	882-3392
LIBRARY	882-3372

